

Regular Meeting
Jasper Plan Commission
January 4, 2012

President Bob Wright called the Regular Meeting of the Jasper Plan Commission to order at 7:30 p.m. Board member Bernita Berger took roll call as follows:

Bob Wright, Pres.	-Present	Cindy Laake	-Present
Jim Schroeder, V.P.	-Present	Pat Lottes	-Present
Brad Schnarr, Sec.	-Present	Chad Hurm, Eng.	-Present
Bernita Berger	-Present	Bill Shaneyfelt, Atty.	-Present
Randy Mehringer	-Present		

Also present were new members Ben Krapf, Martin Loya and Kevin Manley.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Wright led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of the December 7, 2011, Regular Meeting were reviewed. Brad Schnarr made a motion to approve the minutes as mailed. Vice President Jim Schroeder seconded it. Motion carried 11-0.

STATEMENT

President Wright read the following statement. "We are now ready to begin the public hearings scheduled for this evening. With respect to tonight's meeting and public hearings, we are hereby incorporating by reference into the record of tonight's meeting and public hearings, City of Jasper Ordinance Number 1993-17, entitled "Zoning Ordinance of the City of Jasper, Indiana and its jurisdictional area" and any and all amendments thereto, and the City of Jasper Comprehensive Plan. Audio and videotapes of these proceedings are also incorporated by reference into this evening's record."

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2012

Randy Mehringer nominated Brad Schnarr as President, Jim Schroeder as Vice President and Bernita Berger as Secretary for 2012. Pat Lottes made a motion to close the nominations, seconded by Bernita Berger. Motion carried 11-0. All members present were in favor of Brad Schnarr as President, Jim Schroeder as Vice President and Bernita Berger as Secretary for 2012.

Mayor Seitz – Introductions of new members, City Attorney and Building Commissioner.

Mayor Terry Seitz appeared before the Board to introduce and welcome Darla Blazey as the new Building Commissioner/Planning Director. Ms. Blazey has been appointed to replace former Building Commissioner Dave Seger who retired in October of 2011. Mayor Seitz explained that he will be working with the City Attorney to propose a new ordinance to redefine the current position, changing it to "Director of Community Development and Planning."

Martin Loya, Ben Krapf and Councilmember Kevin Manley have accepted the Mayor's appointments to serve on the Plan Commission. The new members, along with new City Attorney Bill Shaneyfelt, were also given a sincere welcome from Mayor Seitz and the current Plan Commission members.

Approval of Mayor's Appointment to Head of Planning Department.

Vice President Jim Schroeder made a motion to accept the Mayor's appointment of Darla Blazey as Head of the Planning Department. Bob Wright seconded it. Motion carried 11-0.

As President Schnarr started to entertain a motion to appoint a Plan Commission member from the two-mile jurisdictional area to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals, Attorney Shaneyfelt told the Board that according to state statute, the Board of Zoning Appeals is supposed to have only five members, not six.

The current ordinance states that it is a six-member board, with two of those members appointed by the Plan Commission. However, Attorney Shaneyfelt said according to state statute, the board is supposed to comprise of five members, with only one of those appointments coming from the Plan Commission.

Following some discussion, Attorney Shaneyfelt advised the Commission to appoint someone, contingent on the legality of the appointment. If indeed the board is supposed to have only five members, the appointment would not take effect, and the City's ordinance would need to be corrected.

Cindy Laake made a motion for Vice President Jim Schroeder to be appointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals, contingent upon the legality of the appointment. Secretary Bernita Berger seconded it. Motion carried 11-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Petition of City of Jasper to amend the Subdivision Control Ordinance that references bonds that secures performance of construction of infrastructure.

City Engineer Chad Hurm appeared before the board to propose some changes to the subdivision control ordinance to establish a maintenance bond that would be held after a project is completed. The intent for the change is to get the bonds released and the subdivision infrastructure installed in a timely manner. A public hearing was held at last month's meeting regarding the same issue and was favorably recommended to the Common Council for final approval. However, after reviewing the proposal again, former City Attorney Sandy Hemmerlein and City Engineer Chad Hurm found some additional changes that should be added to the language.

City Engineer Hurm gave a brief explanation to bring the new members up-to-date on the proposal. After some discussion, Attorney Bill Shaneyfelt advised that the public hearing be continued until next month's meeting to allow him some time to review the proposed changes.

Vice President Schroeder made a motion to continue the public hearing. Pat Lottes seconded it. Motion carried 11-0.

With no further discussion, Ben Krapf made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Martin Loya seconded it. Motion carried 11-0, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Brad Schnarr, President

Bernita Berger, Secretary

Kathy M. Pfister, Recording Secretary